

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 355
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ADANA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL IZMIR IMMEDIATE

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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SE, EUR/P, S/PRS, PA

USINFO FOR IOP/M, IBS/PN: TURKISH SERVICE, IPS/PE,
IBS/PC, IEU

DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE
FOR MR. POWELL

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R), TU
SUBJECT: ECEVIT STATEMENT TO TRT

FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF Q&A WITH GOT PRIMIN
BULENT ECEVIT BROADCAST IN MAJOR EVENING NEWSCASTS BY TURKISH
RADIO AND TELEVISION (TRT) FRI 20 JAN (SENTENCE IN PARENTHESES
WAS BROADCAST ONLY ON TV, OMITTED ON RADIO):

(QUESTION) MR. PRIME MINISTER, SHORTLY YOU WILL HAVE TALKS
AT A WORKING DINNER WITH CYRUS VANCE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS
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MINISTER OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. LATER, I THINK,
THESE TALKS WILL CONTINUE ON THE TECHNICAL LEVEL. WHAT
ARE THE MAIN SUBJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THESE TALKS?

(ANSWER) AS IS KNOWN, IN RECENT YEARS RELATIONS BETWEEN
TURKEY AND OUR ALLY, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HAVE BEEN
PASSING THROUGH A PERIOD OF HANDICAP (I.E., UNSETTLED PERIOD),

AND THIS HANDICAP HAS BROUGHT FORTH AN IMPORTANT ISSUE NOT ONLY FOR TURKEY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO A DEGREE FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PEACE IN THE WORLD, TURKEY HAS PROVIDED FOR YEARS, FOR LONG YEARS MORE THAN WAS REQUIRED OF IT, OF CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH FELL TO IT WITHIN THE ALLIANCE SYSTEM OF WHICH IT IS A MEMBER. IT (TURKEY) WAS LEFT TO SHOULDER MUCH HEAVIER BURDENS THAN ITS ECONOMY COULD BEAR. BUT IN RESPONSE TO THESE CONTRIBUTIONS BY TURKEY, THE ACTIONS RELATED TO TURKEY BY THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE ALLIANCE, OF MOST OF THE (OTHER COUNTRIES, HAVE ESPECIALLY IN RECENT YEARS NOT BEEN SATISFYING. (WE HOPE THAT AMERICA WILL TAKE A POTITIVE APPROACH TO ELIMINATE THESE PROBLEMS WHICH ARE CAUSES OF TROUBLE, POINTS OF TROUBLE.) TURKEY'S PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY THE SECURITY PROBLEM, CANNOT BE ISOLATED FROM WORLD PEACE, FROM THE PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY TO MAKE PEACE IN THE WORLD CONTINUOUS, AND FROM REGIONAL PROBLEMS. THEREFORE, DURING THESE DAYS IN WHICH WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. CYRUS VANCE, MISISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WHO IS GOING TO VISIT TURKEY FOR A SHORT TIME, WE WILL NOT CONSIDER ONLY TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS, ONLY BILATERAL RELATIONS; AT THE SAME TIME WE HOPE TO FIND THE CHANCE OF REVIEWING ALL OF THE WORLD PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY AS THEY RELATE TO TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. BECAUSE, AS I HAVE SAID, WORLD PROBLEMS CANNOT BE ISOLATED FROM THE PROBLEMS OF TURKEY. TURKEY IS A VERY IMPORTANT COUNTRY

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FROM THE GEOPOLITICAL ANGLE. AT THE SAME TIME, SOME OF HER FRIENDS MAY HAVE GIVEN IMPORTANCE TO TURKEY UNTIL NOW MORE FROM THE MILITARY POINT OF VIEW, BUT TURKEY HAS GREAT IMPORTANCE FROM ANOTHER ANGLE. TURKEY IS THE ONLY COUNTRY WHICH, WHILE DEVELOPING, HAS BEEN ABLE TO MAKE LIBERTARIAN DEMOCRACY SURVIVE FROM THE SECOND WORLD WAR UNTIL NOW. THIS MUST HAVE A SPECIAL VALUE AND MEANING FOR ALL THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONS AND FOR ALL WHO BELIEVE IN DEMOCRACY, WHO LONG FOR DEMOCRACY. WE BELIEVE IT IS NECESSARY THAT OUR FRIENDS, THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN TURKEY EVALUATE TURKEY NOT ONLY FROM POINT OF VIEW OF SECURITY, FROM THE GEOPOLITICAL ANGLE, BUT ALSO FROM THE ANGLE OF THE IMPORTANCE WHICH TURKEY ATTACHES TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO LIBERTARIAN DEMOCRACY. IN THE 1920S THE TURKISH NATION PROVIDED LEADERSHIP TO ALL THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS IN THE WORLD. NOW TURKEY IS A NATION WHICH IS PROVING THAT EVEN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IF THEY WANT TO AND WILL SHOULDER CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES, CAN MAKE LIBERTARIAN DEMOCRACY SURVIVE. THIS HAS GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE WORLD OF OUR ERA. I HOPE THAT THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN DEMOCRACY WILL PROPERLY EVALUATE THIS.

(QUESTION) MR. PRIME MINISTER, AS FAR AS I UNDERSTAND, MAY WE

EXPECT A RENEWAL, A CHANGE IN TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS AS A
RESULT OF A CHAIN OF DISCUSSIONS WHICH WILL ENCOMPASS ALL THESE
SUBJECTS?

(ANSWER) WE SINCERLY WANT OUR FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND OUR
COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO OPERATE
SMOOTHLY, AS MUCH AS IT IS BENEFICIAL TO OUR SECURITY BUT AT
THE SAME TIME IN THE MEASURE WHICH CONTRIBUTES TO WORLD PEACE.
BUT, OF COURSE, THIS CANNOT BE REALIZED BY OUR UNILATERAL
GOOD-WILLED APPROACH AND ACTIONS. I EXPECT AND I HOPE THAT
THE TALKS I WILL HAVE WITH MR. CYRUS VANCE AND THE TALKS MY
COLLEAGUES WILL HAVE WILL CREATE A HOPEFUL SITUATION ON THIS
SUBJECT.

(END TRANSCRIPT)

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